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EDITORIAL

IS THE ARABIAN SEA FOR THE ARABS OR FOR THE
FLEETS OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM??

This question is repeated by every honourable citizen in the grand Arab homeland in general and in our area, which is the centre of colonialist greeds in particular, as the ordinary citizen sees in front of him daily treasons committed against the homeland and events taking place around him so fast, and newspapers and news agencies come up with news not pleasing him at all. The spread up of imperialist military forces in several parts of the Arab homeland such as Egypt and Oman for example and other Arab countries lying under imperialist hegemony, have stirred indignation and resentment with all peoples. Whoever hears unfortunately certain Arab radio stations, while quoting reports over the military manouvre from Voice of America and London Radio stations without comment or opposition for such manouevres as if the matter does not concern them at all, is making the ordinary citizen surprised and shouts from the bottom of his heart: Where are you O' Arabs from all this American shamelessness? Where are you from such flagrant aggression. But what is the use of screaming while the traitor rulers are busy chaining their peoples and assassinating public freedoms in their countries. What is the use of screaming while these rulers are busy putting in prison the honourable citizens. What is the use of screaming while these rulers regard America and the Western countries as the dearest friends.

There is no surprise so long Qaboos and Sadat are proceeding further in their treason and hand over the Omani and Egyptian territories to American imperialism while the other some move no limb. Does their silence not prove their approval and welcome of such treasons.

The American-British military manouevres which started some days ago in the Arabian Sea, without permission from the Arabs of course, and where huge numbers of military vessels and fleets for the NATO forces exist, constitutes in fact a flagrant aggression and provocative act harming the security and safety of the peoples of the area and the entire world, as the sea which is named as The Arabian Sea, has been transformed by the United States of America into a sea for the fleets of aggression and a playground for its forces and the forces of NATO. The presence of sixty American, British, French and Australian military pieces close to the Gulf will in fact be added to the remaining other forces of imperialism existing in the area, making the capitalist countries by that tighten their control over our area entirely.

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The chains of plotting have been completed and the greeds of imperialism appeared clear in fact. If some of the rulers have kept silent and the other some welcomed such presence and others delivered our territories to the forces of evil and aggression, the peoples will not keep silent nor calm down until such aggression is checked off and wiped out for ever and those collaborating with imperialism as swept. Then the Arabian Sea will be for the Arabs certainly and not for American imperialism and its allies and its plans for interference and aggression.

--SAUT AL-THAWRA

THE IMPERIALIST MILITARY INTERFERENCE IN GULF AREA

The screams released by the Carter Administration one and a half years ago on protection of its interests which it regarded as lively in the Gulf area, have surpassed the framework of words and started to take magnified shape having its dimensions and aims which do not deviate the objectives of the forces of world imperialism represented in subjugating peoples and making them bow to their influence. When Washington announced in the middle of last year that the Gulf area comes within its defence strategy it linked words by deeds. This was when it intimidated the hireling regime in Muscat to lay down its technical project for protection of Hormuz Strait which was rejected by the peoples of the Gulf area and some governments in it and the other some from the area regimes have kept silent over it. This Qaboosite project was aiming at establishing a military pact between the countries of the area to be supervised by the United States of America. The main reason for this project is protection of the interests of the imperialist countries in this important area. But when Qaboos failed to realise what his masters wanted, these masters moved in another direction but not much far from the aforementioned Qaboos project. This move was represented in the conclusion of military agreements and the obtaining by the American Administration of bases for its military forces in Oman the Sultanate, Somalia and Egypt and military facilities in Saudi Arabia and Jebel port in the United Arab Emirates. The signs of this appeared clear with the arrival of AWACS planes and air re-fuelling planes to Saudi Arabia in the first half of October. This is only part of what the U.S. is having, as it has more than 23 military vessels including two aircraft carriers stationed near the entrance of the Gulf since several months ago.

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As voices are still heightening amidst the members of the American people calling for non-involvement in whether regional war as happened in Vietnam, the American Administration is trying to make others get involved with it in the operation of safeguarding the imperialist interests in the area of the Arabian Gulf and Peninsula. As Britain is having old knowledge of the area and its peoples, it is necessary to make it involved in the issue. So the Carter Administration asked Britain to increase its military ability in this area. So Britain sent two military vessels to the Gulf which arrived to Hormuz Strait on tenth October. All this for defeating the voices opposing the Carter interference policy amidst the members of the American people. The developments and events being witnessed by the area currently gives appearance before us of one objective fact. This is that the United States and its allies the Western capitalist countries are undertaking the role of policeman after such assignment was entrusted during the seventies to the local reactionary regimes which failed as a result of the toppling of the emblems upon which imperialism was relying such as the Shah of Iran and others. When American President Carter was threatening of being prepared to undertake an armed interference in the Gulf area for safeguarding what he called the lively interests of his country in the Gulf area, this was nothing but a weak excuse without any foundation, since the Americans are existing in the Gulf area since tens of years and that the Hormuz Strait cannot be closed by any force, local it be or foreign. If the excuse with the Carter Administration is the war existing between Iraq and Iran, then the imperialist hands are not far away from heightening this war if not to say that Washington was the one that gave the green light for its break out. Does Washington want to colonise the area anew this time involving Britain which left the area in a semi-complete manner in March, 1975 following the withdrawal of the British armies from Masirah base at the time? The answer to such question must be positive after taking into consideration the new colonialist shape which is represented in granting the regime which is linked with imperialism, a type of political independence in form only with introduction of a type of agreement as if it is between two equal parties in connection with the establishment of military installations including bases, arsenals and other military facilities in addition to opening the doors before the multi-national companies for exploiting the wealths of the country concerned. What Washington wants to realise in the Gulf area does not depart this drawn up frame and that many of the regimes of this area have the great desire of seeing the U.S. militarily and economically controlling in full the wealths of the peoples of

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of the area because they live in permanent anxiety and continuous fear not of an external enemy but of the masses of their countries whom they regard as the main enemy of their attitude in the rule. This is making them fall completely in the laps of the forces of imperialism. The steps adopted by Qaboos and his regime are only examples for that.

America, whose leader threatens of military interference for protecting Hormuz Strait against closure according to his allegations, depends for its interference upon its reactionary pagans represented in some regimes of the Arabian Gulf and Peninsula area to which such statements brought some assurance in connection with their stay in the rule for years to come because if the American-British military interference happened in fact, it will be directed in the first place to the national and democratic forces and their masses which are hostile to imperialist exploitation and the reactionary policies and old thoughts which the reactionary forces in the area stand upon for their stay and prolongation of their continuity and make the masses adopt them. The fall of the Shah's regime in Iran has revealed and exposed the imposture of regimes over their peoples in addition to creating wide horizons in front of the masses to demand their legitimate rights digested since tens of years.

As these regimes are no more feeling confident of the peoples of their countries, then their support by the forces of imperialism became the zone that draws up their policy at present. So they work hand in hand with the U.S. in order to bring back to Iran again the pagans of the Shah.

Washington views the Iraq-Irani dispute as to consolidate its position in the Arab area in view of the fact that the dispute will lead to weakening of the abilities of both clashing States and would help in consolidating the military ability of Israel and prolong its occupation of the Arab territories. Moreover, this war existing between the two neighbours - Iraq and Iran - made the Sadat regime to become the biggest power in the Arab world. It is natural that the United States of America has supplied the Sadat with advanced military weapons and equipment during the past two years and works to make use of him as the strongest Arab State for protecting its interests in the area of the Arabian Gulf and Peninsula. Sadat has referred to this several months ago when he said that he is prepared to send his soldiers to the countries of the Gulf area for protecting their regimes against fall. Such say is nothing but an indication of the plan of arrangements which the imperialist circles laid down for the area and that the spreading of the

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network of American military bases during the past months in all parts of the Arab area only aim at encircling the Arab peoples and their national forces fighting for their freedom, independence and social progress. The Iraq-Iranian dispute does not benefit but the greeds of the imperialism of the United States of America and its allies in the Middle East and consolidates the expansionist policy of Israel and expands the potentiality of Washington to make Egypt as a policeman for it in the Arab area.

The "Washington Post" said that it is possible to make American forces interfere directly in the Irano-Iraqi dispute or organise a direct aggression on any of the States of the area whose policy obstructs the greeds of the United States of America in this area.

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY CONFERENCE WITH PEOPLES OF
THE ARABIAN GULF AREA

The International Conference on Solidarity with the peoples of the Arabian Gulf which was called by the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organisation and the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress, ended its deliberations on 31st October, 1981. The conference opened its meetings in the Cypriot capital on 28th October and 250 delegates from sixty Arab and foreign countries took part in it.

This conference came as an expression of the unity of the struggle between the national and progressive forces throughout the world which are hostile to imperialism, reaction and zionism. The convening of this conference also came in deploration of the imperialist military enmassings in the Arabian Sea, Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Gulf and in support of the national and democratic forces in the area which world imperialism, topped by the United States of America, wants to redress in order to continue looting the natural wealths of this area. The conference stressed upon the consolidation of the front of forces hostile to imperialism in the Gulf area and to extend world backing and support for the struggle of the peoples of this area.

PEOPLE'S FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF OMAN

STATEMENT

An official spokesman of the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman made the following statement: "World imperialism under the leadership of American imperialism is still continuing its extensive military enmassings in the area of Oman and the Arabian Gulf. The number of military pieces upto now reached more than sixty military vessels including three aircraft carriers, destroyers, landing vessels, and minesweepers in addition to modern aircraft of the "AWCS" type which arrived at Saudi Arabia recently. Such huge military enmassings being carried out by American imperialism in the area of the Arabian Gulf and in particular in the territories and waters of Oman, constitutes a dangerous and serious violation of international law and the U.N. resolutions and threatens directly the peace, stability and security of the peoples of our area and subjects world peace to the danger of a third world war.

"The aggressive movements by American imperialism in the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea, Arabian Gulf and the Sea of Oman and the plantation of military bases in Egypt, Somalia, Oman and Kenya remarkably prove that the ruling circles in Washington endeavour constantly to blast what was realised at the level of detente, and international security, and heightens cold war and pushes the world towards the verge of a catastrophic war.

"Since long the front were the Arab and world public opinions to the continuation of the traitorous policy being adopted by the puppet Qaboos regime and its full preparedness to implement the aggressive plans of American imperialism in the area by placing the territories of Oman and its waters under the disposal of the American Administration. This will appear clear from the quotation below of some rings of the national treason committed by the puppet regime in Muscat:-

1) In January, 1975, a military agreement was signed between Qaboos and the former American President Gerald Ford on what is called agreement of the security and stability of the Sultanate and Hormuz Strait. The agreement provided for the following:-

- a) that the U.S. undertakes to arm the forces of the Sultan and despatch military missions for training his forces.
- b) The Sultanate is to abandon the right of using the Omani Masirah island for the United States of America and turn this island into a base for the American Seventh Fleet.

- 2) From 1979 to the middle of 1980 the Muscat regime adopted what is called as the "technical project" under the supervision of America, Britain and West Germany for "protecting" Hormuz Strait.
- 3) At the end of 1977 the Muscat regime was the first Arab regime to declare welcome and support for the traitorous Sadat step.
- 4) In the first half of 1980 Britain exported a huge quantity of military equipment including fighter bombs and other planes at a value of 300 million dollars in accordance with an agreement concluded in London between Britain and the puppet Muscat regime. It is worth mentioning that the Sultanate has received four American and British arms deals up to now.
- 5) On 5.6.1980 a military agreement was concluded between the Sultanate of Oman and the United States of America in accordance with which the territories and waters of Oman were opened to the American forces and their allies.
- 6) On 29.8.1980 forces from the American marine infantry were landed on Masirah island, Um al-Ghanam island and Khasb base.
- 7) In August, 1980, a spokesman for the American State Department in the United States announced that the U.S. would grant the Sultanate of Oman military and economic aid. At the same time it was announced in Muscat about the formation of a joint economic committee to undertake encouragement of the American capitals and companies for developing their investments in the Sultanate.

In accordance with the agreement concluded with the Sultanate the American forces in cooperation with the British forces carried out the following measures:-

- 1) The Anglo-American forces existing in the island of Um al-Ghanam, the island which overlooks Hormuz Strait, opened a tunnel between the area of Lima and Hablain at a distance of four kilometres for linking the Gulf with the Sea of Oman in order to use in emergency cases or whenever the Strait is subject to dangers according to the allegations of imperialism. The length of the tunnel amounts to nearly six kilometres.

- 2) On 15.8.1980 the same force surveyed the area of "Sima" in Massendun province. The area measurement is estimated at several thousand square metres. This is for building on it a military base and stores and depots for stocking weapons.

- 3) A marine port was established in the area of "Lima al-Hablain" to be used for the anchorage of military vessels and patrols existing in the area.

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- 4) Construction of land road linking between the area of Khasb and the area of Hablain and Lima and nearby areas and also the linking of this road with inner Oman and the area of "Daba" in one network for facilitating transport and saving the marine distance in the event that the Strait is subjected to any danger threatening the interests of imperialism.
- 5) All citizens and fishermen were banned and prohibited from approaching al-Ghanam island where a huge American marine and air military base is being constructed along with a long-range modern espionage base. In accordance with this the Massendum province was converted completely into a province under complete American administration, militarily and civilian.
- 6) The number of forces in Roos al-Jibal area, the area which overlooks Hormuz Strait, became upto now exceeding 10,000 soldiers most of them Americans and are stationed on Um al-Ghanam, Khasb and Jibal al-Warah. A number of buildings were also constructed on al-Wrrah which overlooks the area of "Sha'am".

Of the above it will appear that American imperialism complete control and political, economic and military hegemony over Oman and that the Muscat regime has fallen completely in the dump of treason and got its fate linked with American imperialism.

At a time in which it condemns the American occupation of Oman and the total criminal imperialist movements and plans in the area, the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman declares to the Arab and World public opinions that it will confront with all combative forms the imperialist military presence in Oman, the presence that threatens the area of the Gulf of being swallowed and threatens the safety of the peoples of the area and world peace.

We urge all countries of the area to condemn such presence and also urge the Arab national and progress regimes and in particular the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and the Arab People's Congress to stand firmly in the face of the aggressive movements of imperialism and adopt deterring penalties against the puppet Muscat regime.

We also urge the world public opinion and all progressive forces and the peace-loving forces to raise their voices against the militarism of the adventurous American imperialism and to heighten their solidarity with the struggle of our people for an Oman free of aggressive bases and imperialist military presence.

14th November, 1980